

REGISTRATION PACKET

AMHERST COMMUNITY GARDENS

HOW TO REGISTER

1. Complete the **Registration Form** – on reverse of this page (page 2).
2. Read the **Community Garden Rules** – on pages 3 & 4 and then sign the statement **below** indicating that you have read and agree to abide by the rules.
3. Sign the **Release and Waiver Form below**.
4. Return both the Registration Form and signed Release/Waiver Form along with your check by **April 17**.

GARDEN RULES

A copy of the Garden Rules is included in this packet (pages 3 & 4). Please read them carefully, and then sign the statement below.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Town of Amherst Community Garden Rules.

Signature _____

Date _____

RELEASE AND WAIVER

I, _____, residing at _____ in

_____, Massachusetts, being sponsored by the Town of Amherst and sometimes known as Amherst Community Gardens, on behalf of myself, my executors, administrators, assignees and all other persons engaged in the said project with my permission, at my direction or for my benefit, do hereby release the Town of Amherst, its successors and assignees and their respective representatives from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of action, concerning damage or injury to person or property and do hereby waive the same, at any time arising out of related to my or our participation in said project in any matter whatsoever, whether such damage or injury be suffered in or upon any land used for the purposes of said project or elsewhere.

I further understand that this release is to compromise and terminate all claims for injuries or damages of whatever nature, known, including any damages known or unknown to the fruits, vegetables or flowers which I have planted.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please complete the reverse side of this form.



REGISTRATION FORM – 2015 SEASON

Return by April 17, 2015

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

I am a returning gardener: _____

I am a **new** gardener _____ Preferred location: _____ # Plots requesting: _____

REGISTRATION FEES

RESIDENT – *Residents have a street address in Amherst, MA.*

First plot is free to anyone 65 or over (limited to one plot per household).

All plot sizes are approximate.

Mill Lane – approx 20' x 20' annual plot

\$15 x #plots _____ = _____
(Maximum 4 plots)

Amethyst Brook – Amherst Residents Only

– approx 30' x 60' annual plot

\$35 x #plots _____ = _____
(Maximum 2 plots)

NON-RESIDENT – *Anyone living in areas outside of Amherst.*

Mill Lane – approx 20' x 20' annual plot

\$25 x #plots _____ = _____
(Maximum 4 plots)

TOTAL _____

Please make checks payable to: **Town of Amherst**

**Mail to: Amherst Conservation Department
4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002**

Please complete the reverse side of this form.



2015 AMHERST COMMUNITY GARDENS – GUIDELINES AND RULES



DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES:

April 17:	Registration packet due
April 17:	Last day that returning gardeners' plots will be held
April 22:	New Gardeners – garden assignments for new gardeners will be made after April 22
May 20:	Weather and soil conditions permitting – garden assignments completed and plots marked
October 31:	End of season clean-up date – plots must be cleared of plants, gardening equipment and other material

1. Minors will be required to have an adult co-signer.
2. Gardeners will keep a clean and well maintained garden area. Trash/rubbish will be removed from the garden premises. **TRASH IN/TRASH OUT!**
3. **Storage of fences, tools, hoses, wheelbarrows, chairs, barrels, grills, wood, baskets, cold frames, metal or any item made of plastic will not be permitted. Any of these or other unnatural items must be removed from the garden site by October 31. All material left at the garden site after October 31th is subject to removal and disposal by the Conservation Department at the gardener's expense. Failure to comply will result in the gardener losing the privilege in renting garden sites.**
4. No Pets. Amherst law requires dogs to be restrained at all times. Dogs must not be permitted to damage or enter the garden plots of others.
5. Plots:
 - A plot may not be worked until completed registration forms and fees have been received by the Amherst Conservation Department. All garden fees are non-refundable.
 - Only one person may register for a plot. The status and residence of that person determines the applicable fee structure. That person is responsible for insuring that the garden rules as they apply to her/his plot(s) are observed. However, more than one person may garden in a plot.
 - **Plot(s) must be cleaned for winter by October 31; otherwise the plot(s) cannot be renewed for the next gardening season.** (The gardener may apply to the Conservation Department for reinstatement.) Cleaning includes cutting down and disposing of dead plants to discourage soil-borne disease and over-wintering pests. Newspaper, temporary fencing, plastic jugs, plastic mulch, furniture, toys must be removed.
 - You may plant what you wish within your plot(s), subject to the following restrictions:
Plantings, structures and trees that shade other garden plots are not allowed.
Plantings should not encroach on your neighbors' plots. **Avoid planting crops that are potentially invasive such as raspberry and mint. PLANTING OF NON-NATIVE INVASIVES IS NOT ALLOWED!**
 - Plantings within a plot are the property of the registered gardener. If a gardener does not plan to return for the following season, remaining plants must be removed by the autumn clean-up date. If a gardener

fails to cultivate his/her plot by June 1, the garden plot(s) will be reassigned to someone on the waiting list.

- Garden plots at Mill Lane are approximately 20' x 20'; garden plots at Amethyst Brook are approximately 30' x 60'. Amethyst Brook gardens are for Amherst residents only.
 - Gardeners are limited to a maximum of four garden plots at Mill Lane and two plots at Amethyst Brook.
 - **Returning gardeners' plots will be held until April 17, 2015. If registration forms and payment are not received by that day, they will be made available to other gardeners.**
 - Registration may be transferred from one gardener to another who is gardening in the same plot only by written request to the Conservation Department.
6. **CONSERVE WATER!** Gardeners must be present during watering; sprinklers and soaker hoses are not allowed. Soaker hoses and unattended sprinklers do not allow for equitable water access and usage. Garden water may not be used for washing of motor vehicles or for any non-gardening related activities.
 7. **The use of chemical herbicides and pesticides are NOT allowed.**
 8. Garden waste may be handled as follows:
 - Gardeners are encouraged to maintain compost piles within their plot(s). Please compost only plant and vegetable material, and cover fresh compost with soil to discourage animals. Do not bring kitchen waste to your compost pile.
 9. The Town of Amherst will not be responsible for protecting or policing garden plots against vandalism, theft of garden implements or stealing of plants, fruits or vegetables.
 10. Selling farm related or other products at any of the Community Garden sites or on adjacent Town property is prohibited.
 11. Violators of the rules are subject to the loss of plots and fees.



Thank you!

Amherst Conservation Department
4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002
(413) 259-3045
conservation@amherstma.gov

SAVE FOR REFERENCE